

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Device for dislodging and recovering dredging material of varying nature, comprising a bearing housing, a drive shaft mounted therein for rotatingly driving with a determined torque a cutter head with a support ring, which cutter head is mountable on the drive shaft via a hub, and a suction pipe which can be connected to a suction mouth which is surrounded by a fixed cutter shield which fills the space between the rotating support ring on the one side and the suction mouth and the bearing housing on the other, ~~wherein and~~ a number of cutter heads with a different support ring diameter, a first cutter head of said number of cutter heads having a support ring diameter configured for a relatively hard bed material, such as rock, and a second cutter head of said number of cutter heads having a support ring diameter configured for a relatively soft bed material, such as sand, said number of cutter heads being alternatively mountable ~~can be mounted via the same hub on the drive shaft, wherein the support ring diameter is determined by the torque and the nature of the dredging material to be recovered.~~

2. (Currently Amended) Device as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein further comprising a number of suction mouths with a different entry section can be connected which are alternatively connectable to the suction pipe, wherein the entry section is determined by the nature of the dredging material to be recovered~~ a first suction mouth of said number of suction mouths being configured for a relatively hard

bed material, such as rock, and a second suction mouth of said number of suction mouths being configured for a relatively soft bed material, such as sand.

3. (Currently Amended) Device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the dimensions of the first and second suction mouth-mouths are adapted-configured such that in the operative position the bottom end fits closely between the cutter shield and the support ring of the ~~associated~~ first and second cutter headheads, respectively.

4. (Currently Amended) Device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the device further comprises a cutter ladder, ~~wherein and~~ a number of cutter shields ~~can be being alternatively mounted-mountable~~ on the cutter ladder which, during use of different cutter head/suction mouth combinations, allow ~~the a~~ first and second cutter shield of said number of cutter shields to be connected on one side to the edge of the bearing housing and the first and second suction mouth and on the other side to the inner edge of the first and second support ring and the front end of the cutter ladder, respectively.

5. (Currently Amended) Device as claimed in claim ~~[[2]]~~4, wherein the first and second cutter shield takes the form at the bottom of a truncated cone in the direction of the cutter head, wherein ~~the smaller the support ring diameter of the cutter head to be mounted, the greater is the angle of opening of the truncated cone of the first cutter shield is greater than the angle of opening of the truncated cone of the second cutter shield to be mounted.~~

6. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one nozzle is provided for spraying a fluid under high pressure into the dredging material cut into by the cutter head.

7. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the drive shaft takes a hollow form in order to form a channel for the fluid under pressure, wherein the at least one nozzle is mounted on the outer end of the drive shaft connected to the cutter head.

8. (Previously Presented) Cutter suction dredger for dislodging and recovering dredging material, comprising a device as claimed in claim 1.

9. (Currently Amended) Method for dislodging and recovering dredging material using a device as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein comprising the steps of:~~
selecting a cutter head from the number of cutter heads~~the diameter of the support ring of the cutter head is selected~~ as a function of the dredging material to be recovered and the torque, wherein a cutter head with a smaller diameter is selected for a harder material, and

connecting that the selected cutter head ~~is connected~~ to the drive shaft.

10. (Currently Amended) Method as claimed in claim 9 using a device as claimed in claim 2, wherein further comprising:

selecting a suction mouth from the number of suction mouths ~~with a determined entry section is selected~~ as a function of the dredging material to be

recovered, wherein a smaller entry section is selected for a harder dredging material,
and

connecting the selected suction mouth ~~is connected~~ to the suction pipe.

11. (Currently Amended) Device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the device further comprises a cutter ladder, ~~wherein and~~ a number of cutter shields ~~can be being alternatively mounted mountable~~ on the cutter ladder which, during use of different cutter head/suction mouth combinations, allow ~~the a~~ a first and a second cutter shield of said number of cutter shields to be connected on one side to the edge of the bearing housing and the first and second suction mouth and on the other side to the inner edge of the first and second support ring and the front end of the cutter ladder, respectively.

12-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) Device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first and second cutter shield takes the form at the bottom of a truncated cone in the direction of the cutter head, wherein ~~the smaller the support ring diameter of the cutter head to be mounted, the greater is~~ the angle of opening of the truncated cone of the first cutter shield is greater than the angle of opening of the truncated cone of the second cutter shield to be mounted.

15. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one nozzle is provided for spraying a fluid under high pressure into the dredging material cut into by the cutter head.

16. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least one nozzle is provided for spraying a fluid under high pressure into the dredging material cut into by the cutter head.

17. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 4, wherein at least one nozzle is provided for spraying a fluid under high pressure into the dredging material cut into by the cutter head.

18. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 5, wherein at least one nozzle is provided for spraying a fluid under high pressure into the dredging material cut into by the cutter head.

19. (Currently Amended) Device as claimed in claim ~~[[12]]~~3, wherein at least one nozzle is provided for spraying a fluid under high pressure into the dredging material cut into by the cutter head.

20. (Currently Amended) Device as claimed in claim ~~[[13]]~~4, wherein at least one nozzle is provided for spraying a fluid under high pressure into the dredging material cut into by the cutter head.